

USDA Foods Updates

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Fraud Hotline: 1-866-5-FRAUD-4 or 1-866-537-2834 | P.O. Box 12847 | Austin, TX 78711

Toll Free: (877) TEX-MEAL | For the hearing impaired: (800) 735-2989 (TTY)

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Updated 6/30/2023
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Food and Nutrition Division
Food Distribution Program

Ordering Update

- TDA finalized orders for requests made through June.
 - USDA initially prevented TDA from ordering trucks for processing if the processor's inventory exceed 6 months. TDA was able to order more in June when processor inventories were utilized.
 - Imbalance of poultry white/dark meat.
 - Short fall on peaches. TDA working with USDA on replacement fruit.
- Next potential ordering opportunity for RAs will be August.
 - If entitlement is available (\$18 million)
- SFSP RAs have been set up in TX-UNPS
 - Entitlement has been distributed so RAs can start ordering!

Inventory Update

Redistribution for Processing:

- June 30 – all orders should be delivered to location(s) to close up program year
- July 1 – Processors will zero out accounts and redistribute to state accounts
- Entitlement used can be found in the tracking systems and the Processor Dashboard after July 15.

Contracted Warehouses :

- Annual Inventory Counts complete.
 - Finalizing reconciliation
 - TX-UNPS unlocked for Non-Pilot RAs
 - Gold Star System available for Pilot RAs

Inventory Update

Contracted Warehouses :

- Distribution and Storage fees reported to TDA by July 31st
 - TDA will post fees to Squaremeals for RA validation before calculating reimbursements.
 - Pull financial information in July to prepare for the validation process in August.
- Short/Long Term Storage
 - Do you know you have if you have long or short-term storage?
 - Weekly Commodity Bulletin or Gold Star Inventory System or inquire about invoices from the warehouse.
 - Understand what may have caused the inventory to be stored that long at the warehouse.
 - What are financial impact of short and long-term storage fees?
 - Develop a plan to draw down the inventory and processes to draw down that inventory timely in the future.

***** WBSCM ACCOUNT SETUP OCCURS DURING TRAINING WITH ESCs *****

Training Plan

2023-24 Statewide Rollout



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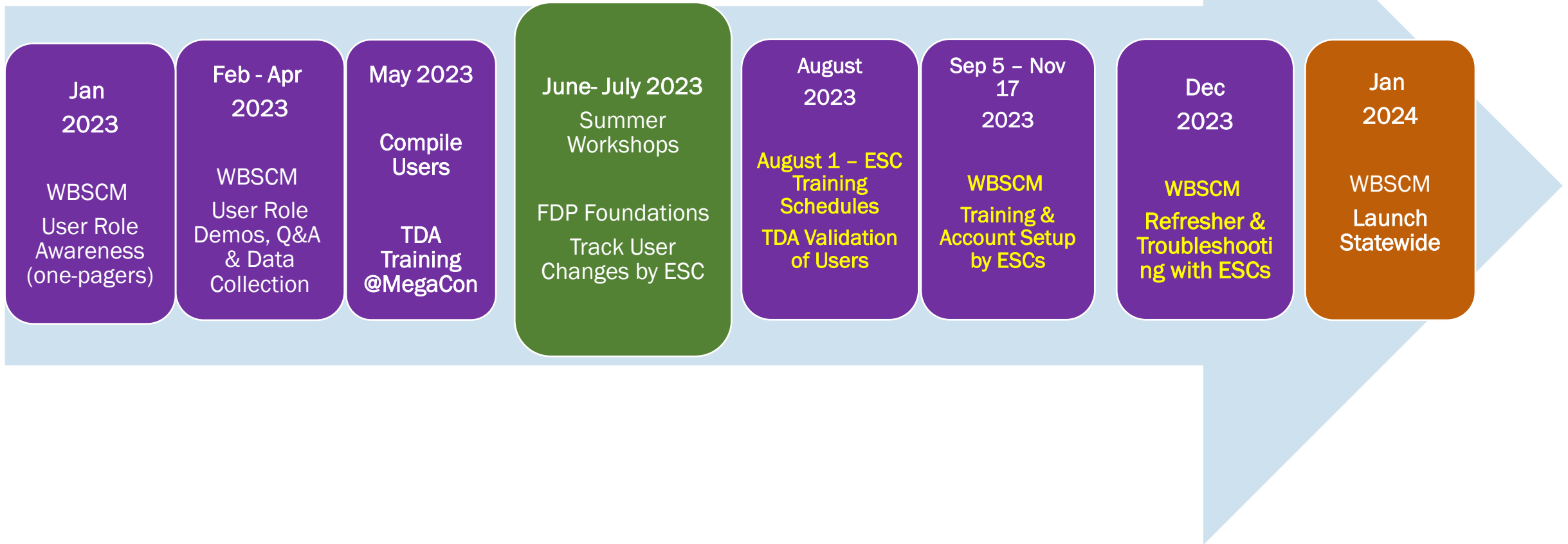
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Food and Nutrition Division
Food Distribution Program

STATEWIDE OVERVIEW

Timeline



User Data Collection

Statewide User Data Collected

- User information has been collected for all Non-Pilot Recipient Agencies
 - ESCs will assist RAs with updates to user information until July 31st in the instance that the RAs need to change their users.
 - Future changes be made by contacting TDA.
 - ESCs will be asking RAs to validate user information provided to ensure it is accurate and compliant with account set up requirements by July 31st.
 - TDA will be conducting user validation processes starting August 1st.

***** WBSCM ACCOUNT SETUP OCCURS DURING TRAINING WITH ESCs *****

Survey Feedback

Non-Pilot Survey Feedback

- Why is TDA changing systems?
- Will WBSCM be easy to use?
- Concerns about learning a new system and making mistakes.
- Concerned on if they will be able to attend all the trainings.
- Concerned about having an AR during training and implementation.
- Having more responsibility and work to complete.
- Nervous about change.
- Concerned about technical problems.
- Fear of not having enough time to learn a new system and do other work.
Short handed with staff.
- Afraid of being blind sided when the transitions happens. Fear of the unknown.

***** Pilot RAs Demonstrated 97.8% Accuracy using WBSCM*****

Pilot Survey Feedback

- Training was provided too soon. Forgot how to navigate the system in January.
- Need more practice in WBSCM. Still learning various features and options the system provides. Not as good right as I was with TX-UNPS but will get better.
- WBSCM is not as visually appealing as TX-UNPS.
- Don't like entering in processing data.
- Need to communicate the "why" for this change better.
- Enhance training to close gaps identified in the Pilot. Allow Pilots to take training again.
- WBSCM communicates status of orders better than TX-UNPS. Real time information.
- Easier tracking of requests and entitlement.
- Better reporting capabilities.
- WBSCM is more intuitive.
- Group of schools met to order together to feel more certain in what we were doing.
- Office hours were helpful.

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TDA Actions for Survey Feedback

- Provide formal training through the ESC Child Nutrition Specialists.
- Update Training material and processes with “lessons learned” and pilot feedback.
 - Include the “Why” for changing to WBSCM in trainings.
- Prepare training set up sooner to improve attendee experience.
- Host Pre-training exploratory Demos in July and August
 - Present most common RA mistakes
- Pilot RA testimonials, tips and tricks resources
- Provide training and technical support through ESC Child Nutrition Specialists and WBSCM Transition webpage.
- Provide constant communication through WBSCM Transition webpage, newsletters, TDA e-mails, office hours and ESC Child Nutrition Specialists.

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Statewide Training

Training Plan

- ESCs developing WBSCM training schedules and will advertise dates once those plans are completed.
- TDA-Provided Training Materials
 - ***11-week training plan (September – Mid-November)***
 - ***Includes 30 minutes – 1 hour training and 30 minutes – 1 hour for Assessments as in-training Lab Activity***
- WBSCM Training available Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
 - No computer-based training on Monday or Friday
- Virtual, In-person options

***** WBSCM ACCOUNT SETUP OCCURS DURING TRAINING WITH ESCs *****

WBSCM Transition Page QR Code:

TDA Resources

- Video Recordings
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Work Instructions
- FAQs



*** WBSCM ACCOUNT SETUP OCCURS DURING TRAINING WITH ESCs ***

Required Training for Users

Training **required by TDA** to obtain a WBSCM account for:

- RA User Administrators only
 - RA101 Getting Started
 - RA105 Account Setup Part I, Part II, Part III
- RA Order Managers only
 - RA101 Getting Started
 - RA102 Entitlement
 - RA103 Requisitions Part I and Part II
- Direct Ship RAs - RA104 Receipting Part I, Part II, Part III– offered after implementation

***** WBSCM ACCOUNT SETUP OCCURS DURING TRAINING WITH ESCs *****

Optional Training for Users

Training **optional by TDA** to obtain a WBSCM account for:

- RA Organization Administrators only
 - RA101 Getting Started
 - Org Admin User Role Demo and one-pager
- RA View Only users only
 - RA101 Getting Started
 - RA106 Reports

*** WBSCM ACCOUNT SETUP OCCURS DURING TRAINING WITH ESCs ***